

**State Program Standing Committee
Child, Adolescent, and Family Unit
Department of Mental Health**

**August 6, 2009
12:00 – 1:45, Waterbury**

Present: Robin Yandell, Cindy Martel, Cinn Smith, Kathy Holsopple
Absent: Barbara Rachelson, Sandy Bartley
Guests: Charlie Biss, Alice Maynard, Brian Remer

I. Business

A. Minutes

Minutes from the May 28 meeting were approved.

B. Appointments for 2009

Alice reported that Kathy had reached her J.P., he was interested in applying for a position, and has already submitted the necessary paperwork. Sandy had also reached her J.P., he was interested, and has submitted his paperwork. Alice has received resignations from Joy Prior, Masha Ivanova, and Patty Dupuis; all were due to increased demands for time in their professional and/or personal life. This means we still need 3-4 names of young adults plus one parent name to proceed.

C. Discussion about PCA pilot test of PEDI assessment tool

Alice will draft up a letter with points made in the notes from the previous meeting for review by the committee.

D. Updates

- Charlie reported that the Department of Mental Health (DMH) along with other state agencies is preparing scenarios for the FY2010 budget with cuts sufficient to meet the anticipated \$28 million shortfall in revenues with the end of the federal ARAS funds. In DMH, we would be looking at \$700,000 to \$800,000 in cuts. Within children's services, we are looking at unexpended funds in residential services, with the Department for Children and Families (DCF), and in fee-for-service Medicaid.
- Youth in Transition (YIT) participants in federal grantees' meeting in California have returned. The team expects to visit more of the regional teams before their plans come in for approval.
- The workgroup on ACCESS/IFBS expects to have its report ready in late January or early February. It will include shaping a Request for Proposals (RFP) to re-shape the ACCESS component configuration.
- Melissa Bailey and Laurel Omland from CAFU are visiting all the Behavior Interventionist (BI) programs in the Designated Agencies (DAs) to check how they stand measured against the new minimum standards. They are finding that most of the programs meet most of the requirements. A statewide training for BI programs is scheduled for August 18 and 19.
- Charlie reported that AHS Deputy Secretary Patrick Flood is taking a very active role in both the Children's Integrated Services (CIS) initiative and in the State Interagency Team (SIT). SIT is currently looking at case referrals and trends. He noted that they are seeing many issues related to children with developmental delays. Kathy stated that there needs to be more coordination between educations and developmental services around testing for eligibility.

II. Youth Suicide Prevention Grant

Brian Remer began his presentation by noting that:

- There are approximately 83 suicide completions in Vermont every year (1 every 4 days) by people of all ages.
- Each of these people has many connections.
- All of these deaths are avoidable.
- Many other people also attempt suicide each year.

The grant will have three major components.

1. Training is central to the grant's work. The grant will promote the use of Maine's school curriculum for middle and high school levels called *Lifelines*. Please encourage people who are interested in suicide prevention to attend one of the three trainings scheduled around the state in September, October, and November.
2. Social marketing is also critical. The theme adopted by the grant is U Matter. The primary message points are:
 - Show that people care.
 - Ask people, especially young people, what they need.
 - Act together to help people get what they need.
3. The grant's steering committee will build on existing coalitions. The larger group will meet a minimum of 4 times per year and help to design and implement a strategic plan for the post-grant period.

III. Hot Topics

None.

IV. Public Comment

None.

V. Next meeting, September 24, 12:00 – 2:00